

# The Flow

*Delivering News from the Carson River Watershed Community*

Fall 2012

## Federal Water Master Garry Stone Retires

By Debbie Neddenriep

Carson Water Subconservancy District recognizes Garry Stone's distinguished 50-plus year career working in the water resource field. Garry retired this summer as the Federal Water Master for the Orr Ditch and Alpine Decree; and throughout his career has been particularly active in the Carson River Watershed. The following career highlights were documented in an oral interview with Donald Seney of the Bureau of Reclamation in 1994:

- ◆ Lovelock Native & UNR Graduate
- ◆ Began Career at Pershing County Water Conservation District
- ◆ Moved to Sparks in 1964 to briefly work as chief of Public Works survey crew
- ◆ CWSD General Manager (1965 - 1984)

*(Continued on page 3)*

## 2013 Carson River Video Contest Launched!

By Sue Donaldson

Here's your chance to stoke your creative fires and win a raft trip on the Carson River! The 2013 Carson River Video Contest has expanded to include anyone who lives in our watershed. Produce a 30-second or 60-second public service announcement (PSA) urging residents to take simple actions to protect water quality. You can use any method you like – cartoons, graph-

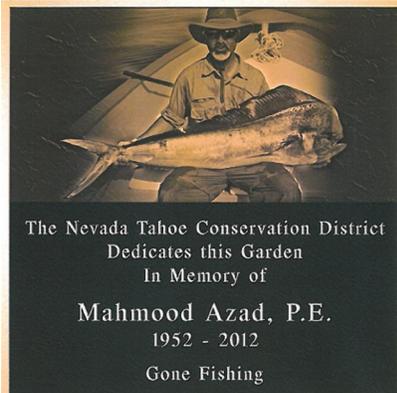
ics, stills made into a movie, video footage, etc. Rules are posted on the NEMO website, [www.unce.unr.edu/nemo](http://www.unce.unr.edu/nemo). Post your video to YouTube and fill out the online entry form (also at [www.unce.unr.edu/nemo](http://www.unce.unr.edu/nemo)) by the contest deadline, February 15, 2013. More information is posted on our Facebook site, [www.facebook.com/carsonriver](http://www.facebook.com/carsonriver). Winning entries will be shown at the 2013 Carson River Film Festival on World Water Day, March 22, 2013. And, it's true! We're giving raft trips on the Carson River as prizes – one trip to an entry by a youth under 18 years of age, and another trip to an adult 18 or older. Questions? Contact Sue Donaldson, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, [donaldsons@unce.unr.edu](mailto:donaldsons@unce.unr.edu), 775-784-4848. We can't wait to see your submissions!



Past winners Curtis Devore and Mark Lacey. Photo courtesy Sue Donaldson

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We are deeply saddened by the recent passing of Mahmood Azad. Our hearts go out to our former Watershed Program Manager, Genie Azad, and her daughter Sherni for their loss. Please visit the garden that has been dedicated in his memory at Nevada Tahoe Conservation District Office, 400 Dorla Court, Zephyr Cove, Nevada.

## Markleeville Creek Restoration Project for Old Guard Station Property

By Sarah Green, Alpine Watershed Group



Current photo of Markleeville Creek Restoration Project site. *Photo courtesy of Alpine Watershed Group.*

The Alpine Watershed Group (AWG) has been working with Alpine County since 2005 to plan a stream restoration project at the site of the former U.S. Forest Service Guard Station along Markleeville Creek. This site has been subjected to significant and repeated flooding over the years. The flood wall which was constructed in the 1930's to prevent flooding has only resulted in accelerated water flows causing erosion, stream incision and stream bank failures downstream.

The Markleeville Creek Restoration Project will re-establish the natural state of the stream and prevent further property damage as a result of flooding. The project will improve streamside habitat by removing the floodwall and revegetating

the area. This restoration effort will provide various community benefits including utility improvements and public access for recreation such as walking paths, interpretive signage, picnicking, and possibly parking. Our project partners include Alpine County, Carson Water Subconservancy District, Markleeville Chamber of Commerce, Markleeville Public Utility District, and the Washoe Tribe.

The project is currently in the design phase of the planning process. Funding for the project is provided by the California Department of Conservation, the Carson Water Subconservancy District and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. AWG and the County collaborated on a grant application which will allow the County to acquire the land for restoration purposes. The County should be notified by the end of September regarding this potential funding source.

For more information about this project or the Alpine Watershed Group, please contact Senior Watershed Coordinator, Sarah Green, at 694-2327 or [watershed@alpinecountyca.gov](mailto:watershed@alpinecountyca.gov).



Artist's rendition of the future restoration project. *Artwork donated by Diane Campbell.*

## Fall is a Good Time to Combat Noxious Weeds

by Margie Evans, Carson City Weed Coalition

If you live in an area where crews were spraying weeds this summer, you may think the window for weed treatment has passed. Well, you're not off the hook yet! Some noxious weeds can be treated well into the fall, even until snow covers them up. While perennials are often best treated with chemicals, biennial and annual plants like poison hemlock; yellow starthistle; and bull musk, and Scotch thistles can be well managed by digging them up.

This is a great time to capture the seeds from puncturevine and pull the plant. Drag an old piece of carpet over the infested area and it will pick up the nasty goatheads.



Bull thistle from Kings Canyon



Scouts digging thistles along Mexican Ditch.

Photos courtesy of Margie Evans

"Students Today Leaders Forever" dug poison hemlock in Riverview Park last summer.



You will be very happy next summer to find that your puncturevine problem is diminishing.

October and November are also the time to seed in desirable plants. Getting the seed in the ground in time to benefit

from winter moisture is critical and will limit the places that noxious weeds can gain a foothold.

So we need your help! Just a few hours of volunteers pulling or digging weeds can save hundreds of dollars next summer and beyond. Contact Margie Evans, [evansm@unce.unr.edu](mailto:evansm@unce.unr.edu), 775.887.2252.

### Some excellent fall weed control measures include:

- ◆ Digging out or pulling the roots of first-year plants
- ◆ Cutting and bagging stalks
- ◆ Capturing seeds before they disperse
- ◆ Revegetating disturbed areas

(Garry Stone, Continued from page 1)

- ◆ Appointed West Fork Carson River Federal Administrator in 1967
- ◆ Elected as Douglas County Commissioner ( 1974-1978)
- ◆ Appointed Federal Water Master to the Carson River to administer the Alpine Decree on the Carson River and to the Truckee River to administer the Orr Ditch Decree in 1984

The Carson Water Subconservancy District extends its sincere thanks and appreciation to Garry Stone for his outstanding service, and we express our best wishes and success as he embarks on his retirement.

References: Seney, D. B. U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. (1994). *Garry stone: Transcription of oral history interview*. Retrieved from BLM website: <http://www.usbr.gov/history/OralHistories/STONE,GARRYNEWLANDS.pdf>



# Clear Creek Watershed Council

## Clear Creek Community BBQ & Potluck



Clear Creek Tahoe Clubhouse

The Clear Creek Watershed Council held its annual community barbeque and potluck on September 20 at the Clear

Creek Tahoe clubhouse. The potluck brought residents from the upper and lower watershed together with local businesses and our federal, tribal, state, and local entities to share their thoughts and goals for the watershed. Jim Taylor, owner/partner of the Clear Creek Tahoe development, updated attendees on the 850 acre conservation easement, the golf course's use of reclaimed water, and the overall state of the development. Mary Kay Wagner, Environmental Scientist with NV Division of Environmental Protection, provided information



Robb Fellows & Bob Fredlund

about what residents can do to reduce non-point source pollution, including safe use and disposal of household chemicals, fertilizers, and pesticides. Costco generously provided a green living booth and donated the use of the tables.

The Clear Creek Watershed Council is in its eleventh year due to the support and work of the local residents and businesses and the federal, tribal, state, and local entities within the watershed. In particular, the Watershed Coordinator position is funded through a NDEP 319(h) grant, with matching funds from the Carson Water Subconservancy District. The Council wants to thank all who attended for their support of our mission. If you are interested in getting more involved, please contact Nikki Florio, [clearcreek@cwsd.org](mailto:clearcreek@cwsd.org).

**Clear Creek Watershed Council's mission is to protect, conserve, and restore the unique and valuable resource of Clear Creek and its watershed through collaboration, education, planning, and project implementation.**

**Volunteers Needed!**



### 7th Annual Carson River Snapshot Day, 9-noon, Friday Oct 19th

Join us for a morning stream walk, a bit of photo journalism, and collection of water quality measurements at our Clear Creek site. Snapshot Day is an annual watershed event that takes a system-wide picture of the Carson River on the same day at the same time.

The two-fold purpose of this effort is to:

- 1) Promote environmental education and watershed stewardship, and
- 2) Collect valuable water quality information.

For information go to: [http://ndep.nv.gov/bwqp/snap\\_carson.htm](http://ndep.nv.gov/bwqp/snap_carson.htm)

Join Nikki Florio, Clear Creek Watershed Coordinator, and Robb Fellows, Carson City Public Works

**Contact Nikki Florio, 775-434-5815, [clearcreek@cwsd.org](mailto:clearcreek@cwsd.org) to volunteer.**

## OFF With Their Heads!

By Brenda Hunt

### Poison Hemlock, *Conium maculatum*

Be on the lookout for this nasty invasive plant that can look like a fern initially, or wild parsnip, and has been mistakenly consumed. The plant can grow up to 10 feet tall, has small white flowers clustered like umbrellas at the end of each stalk. It typically flowers in May/June in this area. The stems are green with purple spots. All parts of poison-hemlock



Close up of Poison Hemlock stem. Courtesy of Sue Donaldson

are highly toxic to humans and animals and care must be taken to avoid contact with your skin when removing the plant. It grows in

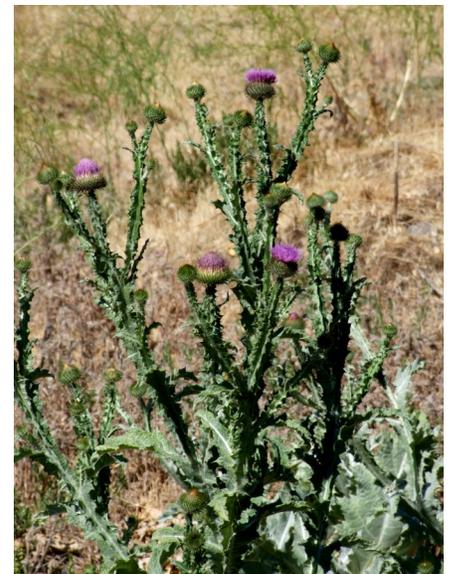
moist sites in fields, waterways, and roadside ditches. It can be found throughout the Carson River Watershed. As stated in Margie Evans' article, because this plant is a biennial and reproduces by seed, hand-removal by cutting the taproot, preferably before it sets its seed, can kill the plant.



Poison Hemlock, top view. Photos courtesy Sue Donaldson, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension

### Scotch Thistle, *Onopordum acanthium*

Margie Evans' article also discusses another large invasive biennial from Europe, Scotch thistle. This plant can grow up to 12 feet tall and form impenetrable barriers if left unchecked. The leaves can be grayish/blue-greenish in color and are large, spiny, and densely covered with fine hairs. The plant's stems are winged with spines. The flowers can be white to violet. The plant grows in disturbed areas, pastures, rangeland and along roadsides throughout the Carson River Watershed. Effective removal methods include hand digging and/or mowing prior to flowering.



Scotch Thistle. Photo Courtesy of Margie Evans

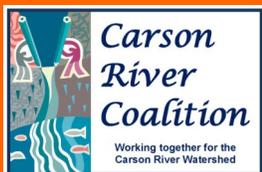
To learn more consult Nevada's Noxious Weed Field Guide, *UNCE 2010, Weeds of the West, Western Society of Weed Science 2006* or report these to your local [conservation district or CWSD](#).

Do you have events or articles that you would like to have published in "The Flow"?

Please send email to [debbie@cwsd.org](mailto:debbie@cwsd.org).

**Editor:**

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Thanks to these  
Contributors!  
Sue Donaldson  
Sarah Green  
Margie Evans  
Nikki Florio  
Brenda Hunt



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## Upcoming Events

### **CRC Education Working Group:**

October 4, 2012, 8:00 am - 10:00 am, CWSD conference room, contact [Brenda@cwsd.org](mailto:Brenda@cwsd.org).

### **Leader Training for SnapShot Day:**

October 10, 2012, 3:00 pm -5:00 pm, at Richard Bryan Building, 901 S. Stewart Street. Contact Mary Kay Wagner for more information: 775.687.9454 or [mkwagner@ndep.nv.gov](mailto:mkwagner@ndep.nv.gov).

**SnapShot Day:** October 19, 2012, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, throughout the watershed. Visit website at [http://ndep.nv.gov/bwqp/snap\\_carson.htm](http://ndep.nv.gov/bwqp/snap_carson.htm) or contact Mary Kay Wagner (see above).

### **USDA Fire & Drought Assistance for Nevada Agriculture Producers:**

October 19, 2012, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, Douglas County UNCE office;

October 25, 2012, 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Fallon UNCE Office

Download the flyer for more information: [Nevada Agriculture Producers Flyer](#)

To register contact Jennifer Kintz at 775.945.3444 or [kintzj@unce.unr.edu](mailto:kintzj@unce.unr.edu).

### **Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Refresher Course :** October 25, 2012,

8:00—4:00 pm, Richard Bryan Building, 901 S. Stewart St., Contact Mary Thorson: 684-2865 or [nvflood@water.nv.gov](mailto:nvflood@water.nv.gov).

**CFM Examination:** October 26, 2012, 9:00 am—12:00 pm, Richard Bryan building. Contact Mary Thorson (see above).

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
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Carson City, NV 89701

**FOR INFORMATION ON REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS VISIT [www.cwsd.org](http://www.cwsd.org)**

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